



ISLE ROYALE

NATIONAL PARK

RECREATION
VISITORS (2017)

28,196

State: **Michigan**

Year Established: **1940**

Land Area: **571,790 acres**

Highest Elevation: **Mount Desor -
1,394 feet (425 m)**

Animal Species in Park: **338+**

Notable Animal: **Wolf**



Plant Species in Park: **938+**

Notable Plant: **Marsh marigold**



Isle Royale was created as tectonic plate movement caused a fold and rise of igneous rock layers.

HISTORICAL FACTS

- Native people mined copper here 4,500 years ago.
- Commercial copper mining took place during the middle and late 1800s.
- The Rock Harbor Lighthouse was built in 1856.
- The main island became a popular resort area in the early 1900s.
- By the 1920s preservationists were promoting the idea of national park status.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

- The park includes one large island plus 450 smaller islands in Lake Superior.
- A study of the wolf population on Isle Royale has been ongoing since 1958.
- The park was named an International Biosphere Reserve in 1980.
- Isle Royale hosts an artist-in-residence program in the summer.
- Ten shipwrecks near Isle Royale are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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